

been drawing the maximum of Rs. 650 as officiating Sarvadhikariakar.

(6) Advance increment was given only once from 1st Vrischigam 1095. This was given in view of the additional work thrown on him by being made the head of the Palace Funds.

(7) Rs. 650.

(8) They refrained from making any proposals.

(9) The pay of the other Heads of Departments was revised and to bring the Sarvadhikariakar into line with other Heads of Departments, his pay was also revised.

(10) Vide answer to (9).

Expert Irrigation Officer.

470. Mr. C. V. Kuriyan.—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(a) whether the Legislative Council has repeatedly requested the Government to appoint an expert irrigation officer in the State;

(b) whether any resolution has been passed by the Council in respect of that;

(c) whether the Chief Engineer has suggested to the Council that an expert irrigation officer should be consulted in respect of the Thanikudam scheme before final report thereon is submitted;

(d) if so, whether such officer has been consulted before the submission of the final report;

(e) whether the present staff of the Engineering Department shall devise and actually work out any major system of irrigation suitable for irrigating kole lands, if so, which is that system?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—(a) Yes.

(b) Yes.

(c) Yes.

(d) The final report has not been submitted.

(e) Yes. Two alternate systems are under consideration. It is too early to say which of the two will be finally adopted.

Kadavanthara Bridge.

471. Mr. P. Krishna Menon.—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(1) the reason, if any, for not taking up any work towards completing the partly built Kadavanthara bridge;

(2) has not the contractor got ready the materials at the spot even so long ago as Chingam 1105?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—(1) The work was held over on account of the complaints from certain people of the locality. It has now been ordered to be resumed.

(2) Yes.

Mr. P. Krishna Menon.—When was the order issued please?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—I cannot say the exact date.

Mr. P. Krishna Menon.—Is it a written order?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—Yes.

Mr. P. Krishna Menon.—To?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—The Chief Engineer.

Pariyaram—Chalakkudi Road.

472. Mr. C. J. Mathew.—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(1) whether they have commenced the road making work between Pariyaram and Chalakkudi.

(2) if not, what is the cause of the delay;

(3) whether the award in connection with the land acquisition is passed, and if so, when;

(4) whether the possession of the land has been handed over to the Public Works Department to commence work and if so, when, if not, why not?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—(1) Yes.

(2) The question does not arise in view of the answer to (1).

(3) Yes, by the Diwan Peishkar on 6th Vrischigam 1106.

(4) Yes, on 2nd Kumbham 1106.

Diversion of Chalakkudi river.

473. Mr. C. V. Kuriyan.—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(a) whether the Kole committee has recommended the diversion of the Chalakkudi river for irrigating kole lands;

(b) whether the Government have investigated the said scheme,

(c) if so, by whom and when;

(d) whether any report has been submitted to the Government.

(e) if the investigation was started soon after the recommendation of the committee, why no step was hitherto taken?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—(a) Yes.

(b) Yes partly.

(c) By Mr. A. George, Special Assistant Engineer in

1103.

(d) No.